

The
LOG

1/-



**T O C H
W O M E N ' S
A S S O C I A T I O N**

March-April

1966

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Member offers use of 4-berth modern caravan, all amenities, Calor gas, end kitchen, 1 double bed, 2 single; flush toilets, beautiful country, and at reasonable charges. 2 minutes sea and beach. Apply: Miss Dora Dewhirst, 18 Ridwood Flats, Chideock, near Bridport, Dorset.

MARCH-APRIL, 1966

FEAR is a killer.

It narrows things down: kicks over one's confidence; tricks one into thinking that shadows are larger than life—and yet, in the wild, it was meant, surely, as nothing but a warning: a *good* thing.

This is the trouble when we let life get out-size. It's time then to put ourselves on a diet, subtract from the menu every ounce of self-pity and self-justification (both *fears*), take a look around again and see that things are pretty interesting and that, whoever we are, and whatever age we have reached (or haven't!) there is some way in which we can help in the world.

Years and years ago, many of the children of the "privileged" (especially the girls?) were brought up to know that responsibility towards others less "favoured" was due from them. To-day, young people everywhere hear this call from one end of the country to the other and respond to it with *happiness*.

Read page 44; read page 50, and if you still have doubts of the good heart of the majority of young people, take a deep breath and put on your specs. again and look at the list of things on page 34 with which Toc H Projects mean to flag the map during the year.

It's a good mixed bag.

AND that's the fun of life, I believe: that it isn't all in the same mood, that we are not all of the same colour nor shape of mind, that we all have a life of our *own* to make—and each life is a different story, individual to ourselves.

Heaven preserve us from spiritual uniforms!

Out of set-piece minds we put up all sorts of hedges and barriers and fences, and become rude and aggressive and vicious—and there fear sits, blue as funk, shivering, shapeless, very nasty, very cruel.

Yet in the news that comes from Branches—the A.B.C. begins on page 36—there is little reflection of this miasmic light: fear seems to play little final part in the records of these "ordinary" people who put themselves to such extraordinarily difficult jobs, *together* and in a fellowship of faith that hard things are not impossible.

Editor: BARBARA VISE

“MAKENA”

VERA HARLEY, M.B.E., has been General Secretary of Toc H Women's Association since New Year's Day, 1966.

She now lives at Crutched Friars House and after our first meeting there, I came away with three dominant thoughts about her: one, that she has a creative zest for life that nothing can beat down; two, that she is ready to tackle dragons if she means to get a job done; three, that she believes in proper delegation—in women this a rare and stimulating quality of mind.

Born at Gravesend in Kent, she is the youngest of four: two brothers and a sister. A major love of her life is the theatre; and even when she got an office job, she took evening classes in speech and drama, following up the time when she had been secretary of her school dramatic society. Before the war she attended several Drama League Summer Schools and managed to visit Germany, Italy, Yugoslavia and the States.

She got back from America a fortnight before war was declared.

And during the war, practically wherever she went, and whatever else she did—and she went far and did plenty!—she got concert parties going or put on plays, “the whole idea being to get people to entertain themselves”.

In 1941, after she had worked in Scotland at an hotel for six months—“catering, cooking, doing the books and reception” and running the drama club in a girls' club in Perth “on my day off”—she was interviewed in Glasgow by the Y.W.C.A. and in March sent off by them to Portsmouth. Then later she took their short wartime course at Westfield in Hampstead. After that she worked at the Y.W.C.A. in the Ordnance Depot outside Nottingham, “cooking and doing programme work.

“**T**HEN one day I got a telegram to go down and open a joint Y.M. and Y.W.C.A. at Yeovilton, and was there for two years. There I ran the ship's concert party and was the ship's unofficial ‘censor’ of shows. It was like a happy family and, gold braid or stoker, all rank went when they came in at the ‘stage’ door! Here, with sailors and Wrens as actors, I produced a Nativity play. This I produced again, once with the Army—after



VERA HARLEY, M.B.E.

arriving in the Egyptian desert—and later, in 1960, in Salisbury, Rhodesia. There, most of the cast were African," she told me, "but I managed to have the Kings of the three different races: African, European and Asian—which was effective." She began her overseas service in 1943 at "the huge field hospital under canvas at Château d'Un, Algeria. We set up a canteen here to improve the food of the nursing sisters and, when we put on a show, using an ambulance for a dressing-room, I discovered that surgeons are *wonderful* stage managers!"

Work in Egypt and Haifa followed . . . "and I saw the Holy Land". After the war she also visited Aden, Somalia and Ethiopia, Greece and Turkey. In 1945 she left the Y.W.C.A. and joined E.N.S.A., stage-managing in the Western Desert and acting in the Cairo area . . . after that she joined a repertory company and that led on to "two No. 1 tours, acting—when I got as far as the Lyric, Hammersmith. I did quite a lot of children's T.V. and a bit of sound broadcasting about this time, too—I like babies and all young people, *and* cats!"

"In 1955 I attended what I think was the first ecumenical conference for women, organised by the Y.W.C.A. at Oxford; in 1959, I did a survey of Tanganyika for World Y.W.C.A. prior to the Movement's starting in that country and had the privilege of enrolling the first Tanganyikan members . . ."

In 1958 the World Y.W.C.A. appointed her General Secretary of Y.W.C.A. in Kenya, and her outstanding work there, expanding the activities and encouraging and helping the African women to take over the responsibilities of the Kenya Movement, brought her the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List of 1964. By the time Independence came she had started to train her successor—"a very clever and delightful African woman. As the Y.W.C.A. representative, Vera Harley attended all the Independence Celebrations.

"And during my time as General Secretary in Kenya," she told me, "I attended the first-ever All-African Christian Youth Assembly when five hundred young Africans came from all over the Continent. In 1963 I attended the Y.W.C.A. World Council—held in Denmark—during which I was responsible for two dramatic productions.

"No, I didn't get any medals during the war," she said, "but did get what was known as a 'Commendation Certificate', being the Base equivalent to a Mention in Despatches."

One day Miss Harley may write the book of her life. In this potted biography, there must be room to cram in three more facts: to show other sides of her character. One, she was an original member of the Women's Cricket Association; two, she was once on the Selection Committee of the Kent Lacrosse Association; three, the Kikuyus, in the nickname "Makena" that they gave her, probably summed her up in one word.

It means "The Happy One" . . .

B.V.

BRANCHING OUT

MURIEL LISTER of Keighley writes: We held the District Party which has become a yearly event, at our Branch in January. After tea we played games, and finished the evening with a film show by one of our members.

We find these social get-togethers an excellent way of making friends with other Branches. At Christmas we joined with the Men's Branch in making up about 50 Christmas food parcels for old and sick people living alone.

A Quiet ROOM

A brief account by JOYCE
GREEN of the Vigil party at
Talbot House, Poperinge, Dec-
ember 1965.

BY Saturday morning the 14 members of the Vigil party, led by Cyril Cattell, had been warmed and welcomed by Talbot House. After lunch we were joined by Poperinge friends for a short ceremony when the Burgomaster, Mr. de Sagher, presented a wreath on behalf of the civic authorities to mark the anniversary of the opening of the House in December, 1915, and in memory of Gilbert Talbot whose name the house commemorates. A Belgian "old comrade" presented a second wreath to commemorate the help given to the British Forces by the Belgians in the 1914-18 war. The wreaths were later hung outside the front door so that passers-by could also share in this tribute to the House.

After tea, sandwiches and cream cakes, at Renière's pâtisserie, as guests of the Poperinge contingent, we left the brightly lit Gasthuisstraat, hung across with pretty Christmas lights, and walked through to Toc H Straat, where despite the early dark of a December afternoon we were able to read the inscription on the stone which had been unveiled during the June celebrations.

Soon after eight o'clock, Belgians and English climbed to the Upper Room and heard the taped message from Toc H overseas, specially prepared for the occasion. Then in unity with the whole Toc H Family we watched the Lamp lit and its flame left to rise and flicker and burn throughout twenty-four hours. The first watch was kept by a family of four from Roeselare, and was followed by a rota of vigilants, for one hour or two hours at a time, through the night and the next day, with Poperinge friends joining in again on Sunday.

Moving about the house during the weekend, tidying a room, reading or talking in the lounge, one was conscious of the spirit pervading the house from the Chapel as we, like other watchers by the Lamp, renewed the pledge to seek God, to find His Will, and to do it.

After an early supper at Skindles on Sunday evening, we all returned to the Upper Room for the closing hour. Cyril had prepared a programme in which we could all take a share, with music, readings and prayers, until at nine o'clock the Ceremony of Light was completed.

TOC H PROJECTS

... Summer '66

VOLUNTEERS are needed for:

- 17-28 July **WHITE WINDOWS CHESHIRE HOME, HALIFAX** to work with the physically disabled. Minimum age 17, for 4 girls, 6 boys.
- 23 July-6 August **NAIRN, SCOTLAND.** A community survey on employment, age, opportunities for service, etc. Minimum age 16, for 12 girls.
- 31 July-13 August **CAMPBILL VILLAGE TRUST, ABERDEEN.** Work with the mentally handicapped. Minimum age 17, for 6 boys and 4 girls.
- 13-27 August **CRABHILL HOUSE, SURREY.** Winged Fellowship Trust. Work—running a holiday for the physically handicapped. Minimum age 16, for 6 boys, 6 girls.
- 16-25 August **CLAREFIELD COURT HOSPITAL, MAIDENHEAD.** Work with mentally handicapped girls. Minimum age 17, for 7 boys, 5 girls.
- 26 August-4 September **BINFIELD HOSPITAL, MAIDENHEAD.** Work with mentally handicapped boys. Minimum age 17, for 7 boys, 5 girls.
- 27 August-3 September **WOODLARKS, SURREY.** Work—running camp for physically handicapped guides. Minimum age 15, for 8 girls.
- 22 July-12 August **BALSALL HEATH, BIRMINGHAM.** About 10 students needed to run a summer programme for local children.
- 9-23 September **POPERINGE.** 12 students for a week's work at De Lovie, and a week's "teach-in" on Belgium.

APPLICATIONS to Jennifer Lythgoe, Toc H Projects Centre, 41 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3, or write to that address for further information. See Toc H **JOURNAL** for details of Projects for boys.

JENNIFER LYTHGOE

*Photograph by courtesy of PRESS
AND JOURNAL, Aberdeen.*

*Picture (opposite) from last year:
"Martha" on safari was at Nairn.
Jennifer Lythgoe (centre and in
sandals) expects to be there again
this year on the community survey
(July 23rd-August 6th.)*



SUMMER CRUISE

TO THE ISLES OF GREECE
AND ISRAEL 3rd TO 19th
AUGUST, 1966.

Leader: The Rev. Bob Knight (Administrative Padre)

TO secure reservations on a larger ship, Mt. Atlantica, the departure date for this cruise has been put forward to Wednesday, 3rd August.

The holiday will provide an opportunity to appreciate the debt we owe to the Mediterranean countries for our civilisation, and in particular to Athens, Galilee and Jerusalem.

A free brochure may be obtained from the Rev. Bob Knight, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

(Cost from 63 gns., by rail and sea from London via Venice.)

IONA WEEK 1966

We are again privileged to be granted the use of the Abbey on Iona for a Toc H Holiday week from 3rd to 10th September.

The Very Rev. George F. Macleod, D.D., hopes to be with us again so that our thinking will be stretched wider and deeper than our customary horizons. Some young people who had this experience last year have already booked so as not to miss it this September. How about following their example? Enquiries to Miss F. M. Beeton, 25 Montpelier, Edinburgh, 10.

A

WHEN HANDLED PROPERLY,
THE ALPHABET OF THE
BRANCHES SPELLS OUT
GOOD PUBLICITY FOR THE
ASSOCIATION ALL OVER THE
COUNTRY. AND DON'T FOR-
GET THE LOG!

C**B**

BITTERNE: As a follow-up to our Guest Afternoon (report published in the last LOG) we ran a New Year Party and invited boys and girls from several schools as well as from members' families. Nearly 70 enjoyed games and dancing under the leadership of Mr. Ray Glanville—and in this way we are linking young people with Toc H to learn more about it and to help with projects.

NORAH WILLIAMS

BRIDLINGTON: We held a successful Christmas Fayre on December 11th, which was opened by Molly Oxenford, our Regional Secretary. As a result we were able to send £30 for our special effort and £20 for the Etembeni project.

L. LOMAS

GODALMING: A new start in April, there are seven of us at most meetings—and that doesn't include a lively 3½-year-old boy. We were able to have "Martha" and our local Methodist Youth Club sold tea and coffee to aid distressed children in Nigeria; £4 10s. 0d. was handed over to the Overseas Missions Secretary of the Church. Our next Branch meeting was held in "Martha". We have one South African member in our Branch and have been visited by an Australian member. We were able to help at the camp at Peperharrow Park in August, organised for under-privileged boys from London by Guildford Toc H. We are also helping at the newly-formed W.V.S. Day Club for Over-Sixties.

VIOLET HAMMOND

HATFIELD invited a representative of the *Welwyn Times* and *Hatfield Herald* to the party we give annually to the old ladies of Welfield Home in Hatfield. A photograph and report appeared in this newspaper. All through the year some members visit the old ladies weekly and help them to change their library books, and now we have been giving the parties for some 10 years. We have just received a letter of thanks from the Matron of the Cheshire Home at Ampthill for a knitted blanket and a donation of £3 10s. 0d. sent at Christmas. It is one of our jobs to supply her secretary with blank birthday cards (with stamps)

*Photo: by
courtesy of
R. HOLMES,
Southampton*



*A New Year
Party at Bitterne
helps to make
Toc H better
known among
the up-and-
comings...*



*Morecambe's
Annual Sale of
Work was
opened by Miss
Whitehead,
Matron of the
Geriatric Unit,
Moor Hospital
Lancaster...*

*Photograph by
courtesy of
THE VISITOR,
Morecambe*

*Ramsgate's
stall at the
fair of the
local committee
for British
Empire Cancer
Campaign for
Research*



for her to send to the people on birthdays. Each summer for the last three years we have taken home-made provisions there and had a tea-party, too—as well as taking blankets and a donation. Last Wednesday in place of our evening meeting, we went to the local blind home and organised a sing-song. Several of our members help regularly at blind club meetings and rallies.

K. KING

MORECAMBE: We held our annual sale of work in November and the chair was taken by Mrs. Davidson. Miss Whitehead, Matron of the Geriatric Unit, Moor Hospital, Lancaster, was the opener and in spite of bad weather we have been able to send £60 to the Family Purse. We consider that all who attended had pre-war value: admission and tea cost 1/6d.; a film slide show and concert, 2/-.

PHYL WHITELEY

RAMSGATE: The Ramsgate local committee for British Empire Cancer Campaign for Research held a successful fair at which our Branch—with help from men of local Toc H branches—ran a stall, full of beauty preparations and other things from the chemist. The whole event raised £420 and our contribution to this was £31.

JOAN THOMSON

REIGATE AND REDHILL: During Jubilee Year our Council in Redhill planted a floral Toc H Badge.

PHYLLIS HALL

PLYMSTOCK entertained more than a hundred local “over-sixties” at our annual Christmas party. We began with community singing, followed by tea, and then Olde Time dancing and party games and entertainment by our members. To end the occasion we had community carol singing and our Padre blessed the Movement and gave thanks for the day.

VERA HOLMAN

SALCOMBE members held a coffee morning with bring-and-buy stalls. This—including donations—raised £38 6s. 6d., part of which is for Toc H funds, and the remainder for old age pensioners’ Christmas cheer.

DOROTHY FRIEND

STREATHAM: The British Home for Incurables recently held their Autumn Fair and as usual we manned a stall. Local traders gave us groceries of all kinds and these, combined with gifts made direct to the Home, enabled us to raise £55. A further good sum was raised by the son of one of our members who sold plants. The Saturday before the Fair, we arranged a tea-party in the communal lounge at a block of G.L.C. one-room flatlets where some of the 28 inhabitants are not able to get out and about.

PAULINE J. CHAPMAN



At Redhill...



*Photograph by courtesy of
THE ADVERTISER, Croydon.*

*At Thornton Heath and Norbury's
guest night...*

ADVERTISEMENT:

BOOK NOW for a holiday at Warden Manor.—Historic manor house in a lovely setting on North Kent coast amid unspoilt country near sea edge. Bus service right to Manor door. Terms, £6 15 0 to £7 15 0 weekly, includes full board, entertainments and games free. Open June 25th—September 17th, Easter and Whitsun (May 27th-June 5th). Write, John Cole, 1 Warrior Square Terrace, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

THORNTON HEATH AND NORBURY: Some 100 people came to our Guest Night in October, including members from nine women's organisations, representatives from six Townswomen's Guilds, and Toc H men and women from local Branches. Nancy Griffiths, regional secretary, gave a talk, *Toc H in the World To-day*, illustrated by slides. Special reference was made to the number of young people working during school holidays, or at week-ends, on a variety of projects arranged by Toc H, and Jennifer Lythgoe told of her experiences at the home for mentally handicapped boys in "de Lovie", Poperinge, and in America as a Clayton Volunteer. Nancy Griffiths also spoke of the active concern of the Association about the drugs problem and the need to arouse public interest.

BARBARA BRETT

WOLVERHAMPTON invited Branches in the District to a Coffee, Curios and Conversation evening to raise money for Toc H funds. A charge for admission was made and there was a stall with things to buy and another on which Toc H literature was displayed. Our Branch members brought along souvenirs from their holidays, at home or abroad, and put them on display under the title of the countries. Picture postcards were also requested and these were arranged round the room, with a few posters borrowed from a travel agency, to give the right atmosphere. Some fifty or sixty members turned up.

M. BIRNIE

First "Get-Together" of West Kent Team

THE first get-together of the Branches comprising the West Kent Team took the form of a social evening held in the Methodist Church Hall, Southborough, on 26th January, and gave a company of 80 or so members, husbands and friends a very happy time.

The catering was undertaken by Southborough Branch under the able leadership of Norma Jones.

Ruby Relf welcomed all present, introduced the Officers of the Team and expressed apologies for several members unable to be present.

Joyce de Levante (Team Chairman) explained that each Branch had been asked to contribute towards the entertainment, in some form or other and following refreshments there were several games and competitions.

The evening concluded by singing Auld Lang Syne.

Home-going prayers were taken by Ruby Relf.

CONNIE BALCOMBE

Team Secretary

WHO IS YOUR DIVISIONAL SOCIAL WORKER ?

DO you know about this new service? The Divisional Social Worker assists the Divisional Medical Officer of Health, and concentrates on helping people returning home from hospital who may be in difficulties and without friends, and also families with problems of various kinds.

There are opportunities here for the kind of personal service which Toc H can give. It is often the families with several young children who need most help—someone to mind the younger ones for a time, while another child is taken for treatment—a chance for a mother, perhaps with a heart condition, to rest while the children are minded; someone to visit children in a residential nursery while the mother is in hospital, and to tell her how they are.

If you have any members who may be interested in such work, why not get to know your Divisional Social Worker? She is a person doing a difficult and demanding job who might welcome practical and reliable help in an emergency.

NANCY GRIFFITHS

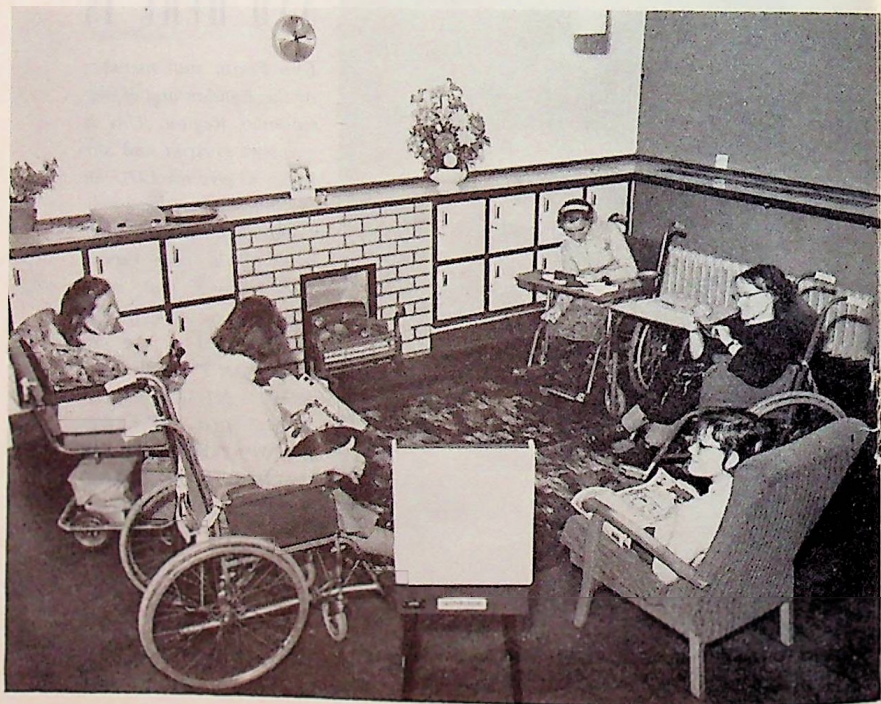


AND HERE IS

Elsa Perrin staff member of the London and Home Counties Region. This is a recent portrait and she hopes to give the LOG an account of the new London Office and other news in the near future. She believes that what she has to tell is the beginning of a new era . . . DON'T MISS THE NEXT NUMBER OF YOUR LOG IF YOU WANT TO KEEP UP WITH IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION . . .

WHO cares?

SOME MEMBERS OF TOC H
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION AL-
READY KNOW OF THE WORK
DONE AT — AND BY — JOHN
GROOM'S CRIPPLEAGE, THIS
YEAR CELEBRATING ITS CEN-
TENARY AND WANTING TO
MAKE ITS PURPOSES FAR
MORE WIDELY KNOWN





*Some of Groom's beautiful flowers
in the making*

Left: specially planned for chair-bound young women, this is a room in a purpose-built home

MEETING special needs in special ways; that is what John Groom and his successors have been doing for the disabled and deprived during the past century. The purpose-built home (illustrated), which was recently opened at Edgware, Middlesex, for chairbound young women, is an instance of this. The need is so great that another is planned for young men.

John Groom himself began in 1866, at the age of 21, by providing homes and skilled creative work for the disabled women he met as a lay preacher in Central London. They made the imitation flowers for which Groom's are renowned—those who follow them continue this work at the Edgware Workrooms (illustrated).

Though the homes are all within 50 miles of London, deputisation speakers, equipped with slides or colour film, travel to most parts of the country to meet the circle of contributing friends. Enquiries are welcome—ring Clerkenwell 3628—or write to John Groom's Crippleage, 37 Sekforde Street, London, E.C.1, for details of this service and Centenary events.

Meeting special needs in special ways; it's a work you may share . . . if you care.

SCHOOLGIRLS' VOLUNTARY

MRS. CATLIN* is a teacher at the Sandfield Girls Secondary Modern School, Hatfield Road, St. Albans, and is also a member of the T.O.C.H. Women's Section, and is a voluntary worker in the Friends' Canteen here at Cell Barnes on a Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Catlin first contacted Mrs. Shute with regard to some of her schoolgirls doing voluntary work at Cell Barnes. It is in the School curriculum that the girls do voluntary work and Mrs. Catlin wondered if Cell Barnes would benefit by this.

Mrs. Shute put Mrs. Catlin in touch with me and I am very happy to report that four girls come to us on Wednesday and Friday afternoons every week, and four girls come every Tuesday morning.

Prior to the girls commencing here I had a talk with the Ward Sisters of the children's wards, and they expressed pleasure at the thought of having young voluntary helpers in their Wards. We all agreed that this was an encouraging new venture, and that apart from the great assistance these girls were going to give by helping with the children it would also stimulate nurse recruitment at the same time.

The Sisters and I, likewise, discussed the duties these girls would be given, with a view to not only helping the needs of the Hospital, but which would be interesting, worthwhile and rewarding to the girls themselves. We finally decided upon the following duty rota: —

1. Help in the Wards

- (a) Assist with the children's personal hygiene.
- (b) Assist with the children's feeding.
- (c) Assist with the physical exercises for the physically handicapped children.
- (d) Assist with the Play and Speech Therapy.
- (e) Assist with the bed and cot making.
- (f) Run messages for the Ward Sisters.

* Mrs. Edith Catlin of Marshalswick Branch, Toc H Women's Association.

HELP

This article by Mrs. N. R. Wooding, Matron of Cell Barnes Hospital, appeared in the Friends of Cell Barnes Hospital Association magazine Christmas number and we have been given permission to reprint this report of a fine piece of co-operation —

2. Help in the Special Groups of Children

This would entail helping with the Group Therapy for children who are not suitable for attending the Hospital School because of behaviour problems.

3. Help in the Schools

Here the girls will gain experience with the School Children in the Hospital School.

4. Visits to the following Adult Training Departments

- (a) Domestic Unit.
- (b) Craft Unit.
- (c) Industrial Unit.
- (d) Hairdressing Unit.
- (e) Sewing Room.
- (f) Laundry.
- (g) Operating Theatre.

Therefore, the girls will first deal with the small children on the Wards, then the Group Children, then the School Children, then visit the various Departments, so that by experience they will see that although on their first visit to Cell Barnes the children appeared very helpless to them the picture presented at adult level will be to them, as it is to us, very rewarding and they will see what a very worthwhile job they are doing; a job which requires many hands to fulfil the duties so essential to the patients in enabling them to obtain the standard of work which they are capable of obtaining if properly trained.

The girls commenced here on 15th September last, and I am very happy to say that after their introduction to the children they accepted the challenge, realizing how very much—even at their young age—they could give by helping to rehabilitate the children.

The Ward Sisters report that all of the girls are most helpful and very willing, and are performing their duties in a pleasant manner and with a sense of responsibility towards the needs and requirements of the children.

These girls are proving to be an asset in the Ward and the children are responding to them with an air of pleasure, and are obviously happy at their presence in the Ward.

I should like to thank Mrs. Catlin and Mrs. Shute for organizing this new scheme for the girls which is proving so helpful for the patients and staff alike, and I very much hope that the girls remain happy with us and that their sense of duty and responsibility encourages them to be more independent and understanding with regard to the social problems, of the Community, in and outside the Hospital.

N. R. WOODING (Mrs.)
Matron

ISABELLA BLAKE

DOWNEND mourn the loss of one of their Builders—Mrs. Isabella Blake who died on December 30th, 1965, aged 88 years. Although she was confined to her room, we used to take her knitting wool which she made up into gaily coloured blankets, some of which have been sent to Sheldon House, Talbot House, Seafaring Boys' Club, Southampton, Old Peoples' Hospital at Wells and to many Old People in our District. She was proud to wear her T.O.C. Builders' Badge.

MARGARET E. EATON

ADVERTISEMENT

ST. MARY ABBOT'S HOSPITAL
MARLOES ROAD, KENSINGTON, W.8
(356 beds)

NURSING IN LONDON. There are vacancies for well educated young ladies of eighteen years of age and over to train as Student Nurses. Three schools a year, January, May, and September. While the General Certificate of Education is desirable, consideration is given to every applicant with a sincere desire to nurse. Matron will be pleased to discuss the training course with parents and/or prospective students and to send a brochure on application.

It's **NEW**

TUESDAY, 23rd November, 1965, was both a solemn and joyful occasion as on that afternoon a new Branch was born at Clacton-on-Sea.

Sponsored by three members of the established Branch, a new Branch was formed specially to cater for young mothers and their children, which had been meeting under the proud title of the "Jubilee Twigs", and on that cold and snowy day the Branch was recognised. Five new members were initiated by Margaret Moody, District Pilot, owing to the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Bainton.

Also present were the Reverend John Hull, newly appointed administrative Padre for East Anglia, the Reverend Phillip Watts, prospective Branch Padre, Mrs. Jackie Fletcher, Area Secretary, and eight members of the Parent Branch.

The new Branch received its Lamp, which was blessed by the Reverend P. Watts and lit for the first time by Margaret Moody.

Various members provided the celebration tea and a vote of thanks was given to Mr. W. Boyd who kindly entertained members' children with a film show during the Initiation ceremony.

One little boy was rather perplexed by the whole proceedings and he asked his mother, "Mummy, when you are made a member, will you *still* be my Mummy?"

Clacton are proud to have had a Branch formed and recognised during Jubilee Year.

M.M.

ADVERTISEMENT:

ALL ARE WELCOME AT NORMANHURST—Spring, Summer and Autumn Holidays. Brochure and Town Booklet **FREE** on request:—Normanhurst, Sea Front, St. Leonards, Sussex.

(Friends who visit our Annexe adjoining the Rose Gardens will be interested to hear that Mrs. Freeman, a member of Toc H Women's Association for many years, is paying a long-awaited visit to her sister in Australia. Her friend is looking after the Annexe until her return back in early September.)

SEE IT

NEW RELEASES

The following new films are now available from the Central Film Library, Government Building, Bromyard Avenue, Acton, London, W.3. The prices shown are 16mm. hire charges for one day only (reduced charges for additional days). Please note that in addition to the hire charge there is a surcharge of 1s. 6d. per 16mm. reel (to cover despatch and certain other handling costs) *for the first day of hire only* (no further surcharge for period bookings). FREE films are not affected.

The film marked (P) is available also for purchase; price on request.

UK 1781 FRONTIER: COMPUTERS AND CONTROL (P)

2 reels 10s. 0d. 14 mins.

16mm only. Two British authorities on computers describe some advanced computer uses and outline possible future developments. Examples shown include the ATLAS fast digital computers used by London and Manchester universities, the critical path technique for controlling the vast Victoria line project for London's Underground, the Central Electricity Board's researches on computer control of an automatic supply system, total control of a great chemical plant, and steel production controlled by three computers in a hierarchy.

COI for Commonwealth Relations Office

United Motion Pictures

UK 1786 CITIZENS ALL — THE NURSE

3 reels 15s. 0d. 26 mins.

16mm only. From a television programme. A staff nurse at the Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth, describes and comments on her work as she goes about her duties and tells why she became a nurse. The Chief Nursing Officer of the Ministry of Health, in an interview, discusses points arising from these comments, deals with the rewards and responsibilities of nursing and the opportunities it offers; and clears up some outdated ideas about discipline, hours and nursing duties.

Southern Television

COI re-edit

UK 2599 TWO OF A KIND

2 reels FREE 16 mins.

16mm only. The work of Postal and Telegraph Officers in the General Post Office, seen in the careers of Ann, a teenager just entering the service from school, and Peter, a 26-year-old who also began "on the counter". The film covers educational requirements, training, amenities, pay and promotion.

General Post Office

Verity

INTERPRETER?

THE Reverend C. B. Firth, one of the Secretaries of the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland, will be glad to have the names of people who are able to talk with immigrants in their own tongue and familiar with the background from which they come.

This is in connection with an effort of the Committee of the British Council of Churches on Immigration, and the Conference is helping to compile an index of such interpreters who can give some aid in dealing with immigrants.

If you feel you could help, will you list your name, address, telephone number, country, language spoken (whether adequate or fluent) and detail the type of assistance you would be able to give: (a) in a voluntary capacity locally/full-time/part-time; (b) in a voluntary capacity farther afield on refund of expenses; (c) by being available to take up full-time employment. Give also the church denomination to which you belong.

Please send these facts, listed under each other, to Miss Joyce Green, Headquarters Secretary, Toc H Women's Association, Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3, and mark your envelope boldly, in the left-hand top corner: *INTERPRETERS*.

A CHANCE OF A LIFETIME !

TOC H PARTY to U.S.A. and Canada, 28th July—14th August, 1967, for members, Builders and Toc H Volunteers (those who wish to join the tour must be a member of Toc H, Toc H Women's Association, a Toc H Builder or a Toc H Volunteer, for a minimum of six months before the date of departure). The tour is also for certain relatives of members travelling with *or without* the member of Toc H or Toc H Women's Association.

Six alternatives, from return flight only, Gatwick-New York for £67, to full tour—including Niagara, week at Canadian Muskoka Lakes including meals, on to Washington and New York—for £116.

Provisional bookings without obligation being taken NOW. Apply to Mrs. N. Griffiths, 68 Hartland Way, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey; or to Ray Fabes, St. Catherine's, Highfield Road, East Grinstead, Sussex, for details of conditions and the booking slip.

This is a chance to visit your friends in U.S.A. and Canada *at wonderfully low* Charter rates arranged in conjunction with the Church Travel Club.

TOC H

PIONEERS

OCTOBER and November were busy months for the Pioneers. We got off to a roaring start with a visit to the Toc H Western Area Conference at Westward Ho, Bideford, at which our Concert Party entertained a formidable gathering of Toc H officials and members. Those present seemed to be impressed with our concert and with the talk given by our Leader, Ralph Longman, and many useful contacts for the future were made.

We have maintained our usual highly interesting weekly meetings, with many local speakers, including Lord Ventry who gave an interesting talk with slides about airships. In this modern age of rockets, satellites and other scientific marvels it is most refreshing to hear of man's first attempts to reach for the sky.

We do not ask for rewards when we undertake jobs of service but at the Bonfire Party given at a local Children's Home, we received the best reward of all—seeing happy children's faces as we let off rockets, Catherine wheels and other fireworks which we had taken along. The children had a marvellous time as they munched sausages and sweets around the huge bonfire which had been lit in the grounds.

The aims and ideals of Pioneers are spreading far and wide, even to Western Australia, and on November 10th several of us had the pleasure of being present at the opening of yet another new unit at Ferndown. The first meeting was at the Ferndown Toc H Headquarters, and several local teenagers came along. There was also present a contingent of the Weymouth Pioneers, together with their Leader, David Pope. Members of the Ferndown Women's Association of Toc H also turned up and provided the welcome "cuppa" and refreshments.

Our own Leader, Ralph Longman, has taken on the leadership of the Ferndown Group until it is well established, and the meetings are now held every Wednesday evening in the Village Hall, Ferndown.

WE recently entertained at the Upton Toc H Guest Night, and there were items by both Branksome and Ferndown Pioneers and a duet by two of the Upton Junior Pioneers.

. . . AT BRANKSOME AND FERNDOWN

PATRICIA MANSBRIDGE reports on happenings among the pioneers of these two enterprising groups . . .

The Concert Party has been giving regular shows to local Darby and Joan Clubs, Old Folks Homes, Blind Homes, etc., and gave a whole series of some sixteen Carol Concerts. In these Carol Concerts there were members from both Pioneer units, and our singing improved each week at the practice nights.

Another service offered and which is gaining popularity in the local 'homes' is a slide show of our journeys to the Lake District and Scotland for our holidays during August and September, fondly referred to as the 'Tartan Tour'.

Apart from the Carol Concerts, we visited Children's Homes on Christmas Morning with toys, and delivered firewood to old folks.

Westminster Abbey

900th ANNIVERSARY

MARKET FAIR — DEAN'S YARD

19th - 23rd JULY, 1966

It is not too early to be making and collecting gifts to support

THE TOC H FAMILY STALL

Tell all your friends and Builders about this event, and enlist their help.

The full Life of a **blind mother**

ELEVEN years ago the light went out of Mrs. Florence Hodgson's life—but not the love and laughter. She was struck by blindness following an operation.

To the average person, that would be bad enough, but to someone who had lived an active life, playing a full part in the life of the community, it might have meant disaster.

But not for Mrs. Hodgson, who has had the support of her husband, Jim, through the difficult years. And now they are celebrating their golden wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson, aged 75 and 69 respectively, live in Walmsgate, Barnoldswick, and this weekend the presents, cards and flowers were showered on two of the best-known people in town.

Mr. Hodgson, a native of Haslingden, came to Barnoldswick in 1914, and was a painter and decorator for most of his life. His wife worked in the cotton industry until she became a welfare officer with a Colne firm.

Mr. Hodgson has had little interest in outside affairs, but his wife certainly makes up for him. She has been a member of the Co-operative Women's Guild since 1927; is a former member of Barnoldswick Labour Party; and is a founder member of the Workers' Educational Association and of the Adult School.

She is chairman of the Ladies branch of Toc H, and last year in that capacity, flew to Holland. It was the first time she had flown, and says she found it a wonderful experience.

She was a founder-member of the Centre for the Blind, and is actively associated with Barnoldswick Baptist Church.

When she went blind, Mrs. Hodgson taught herself braille through a correspondence course with a rapidity which amazed everyone. Now, she knits a great deal, using braille patterns, and is a great reader.

She does all the housework, uses a braille thermostat on the oven for cooking and, when weighing on her kitchen scales, listens for the pan to go down. She irons, using her delicate touch to tell the type of material and when it is smooth.

Mrs. Hodgson also does a great of speaking to organisations in the area. They have two sons, one in Tasmania, whose

This article about a Toc H Women's Association member is reprinted by courtesy of the BURNLEY EVENING STAR, in which newspaper it appeared on October 12th, 1965.

daughter, Dian, was "Miss Tasmania" two years ago, and another in Canada.

The couple have only one ambition—to see their children. "But I don't suppose we shall ever get the opportunity," Mrs. Hodgson said wistfully. "It would cost more money than we can ever hope to have."

A pity, really, for no one has overcome a tragedy with such cheerfulness and courage as Mrs. Hodgson. Nor could she have had a more loyal partner to guide her.

"WE WILL REMEMBER"



ANNIE ELLEN ARMOND—*Builder (Sittingbourne).*

10.1.61—18.11.65

NANCY G. LETTS—*East Barnet.* 23.2.27—25.11.65.

MARGARET E. HALLILEY—*Central.* 20.11.29—22.11.65
(former Gen. Sec. 1929-1933)

JENNIE VIOLET HUTSON—*Gillingham & Rainham.*

4.6.51—13.11.65

ANNIE ORD—*Builder (Rushden Royal) (former member).*

10.6.52—23.10.65

IVY BEAUMONT—*Builder (Whitstable).* 22.10.63—17.11.65

CONSTANCE O'DOHERTY—*Saltash.* 31.12.51—3.6.65

R. M. PENDLETON—*Builder (Streatham).* 20.8.63—Nov. 65

DOROTHY ETHEL DIXON—*Patcham.* 3.7.58—4.12.65

ALICE GRAY—*Builder (Dulwich) (former member)*

10.9.53—23.11.65

GRACE SEARS—*Hastings & St. Leonards.* 5.11.35—29.11.65

MAY PARKINSON—*Middleton-on-Sea.* 18.4.47—30.10.65

MAUD CHARLOTTE GAURON—*Dulwich.* 5.6.59—23.11.65

ETHEL M. BLACKBOURN—*Tonbridge.* 24.10.55—4.12.65.

ALICE MARY AYNSLEY—*Builder (Richmond) (former member).* 17.2.60—24.11.65

MARGARET HUGHES—*Mold.* 5.2.51—12.12.65

ISABELLA GEORGINA AMOS—*Southport.* 22.4.63—19.12.65

AGNES MARY STRINGER—*Ecclesfield.* 21.9.43—5.10.65

NELLIE PICKLES—*Morecambe.* 13.9.56—2.1.66

MARGARET MARY PULSFORD—*Builder (Aldwick Joint).*

12.12.62—Jan. 66

OLIVE M. RODWELL—*West Wickham.* 25.6.31—20.11.65

DORIS FORBES—*Bridlington.* 13.12.54—16.12.65

JANE CATTON—*Builder (Watford).* 1.12.61—5.1.66

BERTHA PEDLEY—*Belfairs.* 2.5.46—7.1.66

ISABELLA BLAKE—*Builder (Downend).* 1964—30.12.65

EDITH ROBINS—*Altrincham* 53. 8.6.27—2.1.66

LOUISA COX, *BUILDER*

LOUIE COX—to so many in the South-West an unfailing source of inspiration—has left us. At the age of eighteen, putting up Christmas decorations, she fell off a ladder, and spent the rest of her life on her back. She died the day before her 80th birthday in the Home of St. Francis at Compton Durville in Somerset, where for the past year she had been devotedly nursed by the Sisters. The severe injury to her spine, and a number of head operations, left her in continual pain, and with very poor sight. Yet such was her lively faith and unquenchable spirit that one rarely realised how very ill she was. Young and old, wherever she went, would turn to her for help and advice. She once asked me to keep her supplied with a list of sick and suffering people for whom she could pray (as she always did for Toc H) “through the long sleepless hours of the night”—and she never forgot to ask about them. To write letters was a major operation but as long as she could hold a pen and use a magnifying glass she kept in touch with her friends herself, and always there was encouragement in her letters, and no complaint about her own suffering. She was devoted to her friends and they to her; a Devon member and her husband drove a long distance each week to visit her and undertake various duties for her. Louie left Toc H Women's Association a legacy that cannot be valued in £.s.d. Her body might be frail, her spirit was mighty.

ALICE WELFORD

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